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FAX

To: Examiner M. Rao	From: Michael A. Sanzo
Fax: (571) 273-0939	Pages: 3
Phone: (571)272-0939	Date: February 27, 2006
Re: copy of response to restr. req.	cc:

This transmission is being sent by Michael A. Sanzo, please call (240)-864-0915) if there is a problem with this transmission.

Dear Mr. Rao:

Further to our phone conversation earlier today, I am sending herewith a copy of the response to the restriction requirement that was originally filed on December 22, 2006. Please call me at (240)683-6165 if there are any problems.

Best regards,
MS

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

May, *et al*

Art Unit: 1657

Appl. No.: 10/559,434

Examiner: Paul C. Martin

Filed: December 5, 2005

Atty. Dkt.: 7601/84454

For: **Screening Process for Hydantoin
Racemases**

Conf. No: 1580

Response to Restriction Requirement

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, **MS Amendment**
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 29, 2006, in which the Examiner imposed a restriction requirement on the claims of the above-captioned application, Applicants hereby elect the claims of restriction Group IX. This includes claim 31, directed to a hydantoin racemase. As a species, Applicants elect the hydantoin racemase having the amino acid "A" at position 79. Applicants have submitted an amendment herewith that cancels all previously pending claims and introduces new claims 35-54. Of these new claims, the ones that read on the elected species are claims 35 and 36.

This election is made without traverse. However, Applicants would like to point out that newly introduced claim 54 is in a non-elected restriction group. However, it is directed to a process and incorporates all of the limitations of product claim 35. Thus, Applicants believe that if claim 35 is found to be allowable, then claim 54 should be subject to rejoinder.